

Complete Listing of the Claims

Claims 1-7 (Cancelled).

8. (Currently amended) A method for synthesizing a nucleic acid molecule from a preparation comprising RNA and double-stranded DNA, said method comprising:

- a) mixing the preparation with one or more DNA polymerases, and one or more peptides or polypeptides having ribonuclease activity; and
- b) incubating said mixture under conditions sufficient to synthesize a nucleic acid molecule complementary to all or a portion of said ~~template~~ double-stranded DNA and sufficient to degrade single-stranded RNA.

9. (Previously amended) The method according to claim 8, wherein said peptide or polypeptide having ribonuclease activity is selected from the group consisting of: RNase A, RNase T1, RNase H, RNase S, RNase B, RNase C, RNase T2 and enzymatically active fragments, variants, derivatives or mutants thereof.

10. (Previously amended) The method according to claim 8, wherein said mixture further comprises one or more components selected from the group consisting of: a) at least one nucleotide; b) at least one suitable buffer for nucleic acid synthesis; and c) at least one primer.

11. (Original) The method according to claim 8, wherein said DNA polymerase is thermostable.

12. (Previously amended) The method according to claim 11, wherein said thermostable DNA polymerase is selected from the group consisting of: *Taq* DNA polymerase, *Tne* DNA polymerase, *Tma* DNA polymerase, *Tth* DNA polymerase, *Tli* DNA polymerase, *Pfu* DNA polymerase, *Pyrococcus* species GB-D DNA polymerase, *Pwo* DNA polymerase, *Bst* DNA polymerase, *Bca* DNA polymerase, *Tfl* DNA polymerase and enzymatically active fragments, variants, derivatives or mutants thereof.

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13. (Original) The method according to claim 10, wherein one or more of said nucleotides are detectably labeled.

Claims 14-55 (Cancelled).

56. (Previously amended) The method of claim 8, wherein said preparation is from any cell or tissue selected from the group consisting of bacteria; insect; bird; fish; plant; yeast; prokaryote; eukaryote; and mammals.

Claims 57-69 (Cancelled).

70. (Previously added) A method according to claim 8, wherein said double-stranded DNA is in an expression vector.

71. (Previously added) A method according to claim 8, wherein said double-stranded DNA is in a cloning vector.

72. (Previously added) A method according to claim 8, wherein said double-stranded DNA is genomic DNA.

73. (Previously added) A method according to claim 8, wherein said double-stranded DNA is a plasmid or a cosmid.

74. (Previously added) A method according to claim 8, wherein said double-stranded DNA is a viral DNA.

75. (Previously added) A method according to claim 8, wherein said double-stranded DNA is a phage DNA.
